Having thus described the preferred embodiments, the invention is now claimed to be:

1.   1.   A   control   program   comprising   executable
2.   instructions for controlling a software program executing
3.   under an operating system, the control program performing
4.   a method comprising:
5.   recognizing   initiation   of   a   software   program
6.   instance; and
7.   responsive to the recognizing, generating one or more
8.   selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of
9.   the software program instance.

1.   2.   The control program as set forth in claim 1,
2.   wherein the recognizing of initiation of a software
3.   program instance includes:
4.   causing initiation of the software program instance.

1.   3.   The control program as set forth in claim 1,
2.   wherein the recognizing of initiation of a software
3.   program instance includes:
4.   (a) identifying a plurality of data files;
5.   (b) initiating the software program instance for at
6.   least a selected data file; and
7.   the step of generating one or more selected events
8.   that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software
9.   program instance including:
10.   (c) generating events corresponding to user inputs of
11.   the software program that effect:
12.   loading the selected data file into the
13.   software program instance,

14   performing selected data manipulation

15   operations on data of the selected data file to

16   generate modified data,

17   saving the modified data in the selected

18   data file, and

19   closing the loaded data file.

1   **4.**   The control program as set forth in claim **1**,

2   wherein the generating of one or more selected events that

3   modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program

4   instance includes:

5   generating a selected initiation event substantially

6   immediately upon the initiation of the software program

7. instance, the selected initiation event effecting a change

8   in a user interface of the software program instance.

1   **5.**   The control program as set forth in claim **4**,

2   wherein the change in a user interface of the software

3   program instance includes:

4   disabling at least some user inputs.

1   **6.**   The control program as set forth in claim **1**,

2   wherein the generating of one or more selected events that

3   modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program

4   instance includes:

5   monitoring events to detect a selected event; and

6   responsive to detection of an occurrence of the

7   selected event, generating a selected control event that

8   modifies a response of the software program instance to

9   the selected event.

1   **7.**   The control program as set forth in claim **6**,

2   wherein the selected event is a dialog window generation

3   event, and the selected control event corresponds to a
4   selected input to the dialog window.

1   **8.**   The control program as set forth in claim **1,**
2   wherein the generating of one or more selected events that
3   modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program
4   instance includes:
5   generating events which modify expand, or limit
6   behavior of a resource that the software program instance
7   accesses.

1   **9.**   The control program as set forth in claim **8,**
2   wherein the resource that the software program instance
3   accesses includes one of:
4   a user dialog window or object, and
5   a program menu.

1   **10.**   The control program as set forth in claim **1,**
2   wherein the generating of one or more selected events that
3   modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program
4   instance include:
5   generating an event which causes the software program
6   instance to terminate execution.

1   **11.**   A method for controlling an instance of an
2   event-driven application program, the method comprising:
3   monitoring an event queue to detect a selected event
4   associated with the application program instance; and
5   responsive   to   detecting   the   selected   event,
6   generating a control event which affects execution of the
7   application program instance.

1   **12**. The method as set forth in claim **11**, wherein the
2   selected event is associated with a generation of a user
3   input object, and the control event corresponds to a user
4   input event which the user input object acts upon.

1   **13**. The method as set forth in claim **11**, wherein the
2   selected event is associated with a generation of a user
3   input object, and the control event causes at least one
4   user input of the user input object to become inoperative.

1   **14**. The method as set forth in claim **11**, wherein the
2   selected event is associated with a generation of a save
3   file dialog object including user input options for saving
4   the file and for exiting without saving, and the control
5   event is a user input event corresponding to the user
6   input option for saving the file.

1   **15**. The method as set forth in claim **11**, wherein the
2   selected event is associated with a generation of a save
3   file dialog object including user input options for saving
4   the file and for exiting without saving, and the control
5   event causes one of the option for saving the file and the
6   option for exiting without saving to be removed from the
7   save file dialog object.

1 **16**. The method as set forth in claim **11**, further
2 including:
3   detecting initiation of the application program
4 instance; and
5   responsive to the detecting and prior to the
6 monitoring, generating an initiating event that causes a

7   user interface of the application program instance to be

8   modified.

1   **17.** A method for controlling an application program,

2   the method comprising:

3   detecting an initiation of an instance of the

4   application program; and

5   prior to a user input, generating at least one

6   initiating event that is detected and acted upon by the

7   application program or a resource accessed by the

8   application program to affect a user interface of the

9   application program instance.

1   **18.** The method as set forth in claim **17**, wherein the

2   generating of at least one initiating event includes:

3   generating an initiating event that is detected and

4   acted upon by a program menu resource to modify menu

5   choices thereof.

1   **19.** The method as set forth in claim **17**, wherein the

2   generating of at least one initiating event includes:

3   generating at least one initiating event that

4   disables user inputs;

5   generating at least one initiating event that loads

6   selected data into the application program instance;

7   generating at least one initiating event that causes

8   the application program instance to perform at least one

9   selected operation on the selected data to produce

10 modified data; and

11   generating at least one initiating event that causes

12 the application program instance to save the modified

13 data.

1   **20.** The method as set forth in claim **17,** further
2   including:

3   monitoring events to detect a selected event; and

4   responsive to detection of the selected event,
5   generating at least one control event that is detected and
6   acted upon by the application program or a resource
7   accessed by the application program to control execution
8   of the application program instance.

1   **21.** A computer comprising:

2   an operating system that handles events generated by
3   a user input, by the operating system, or by programs or
4   objects operating under the operating system;

5   an application program operating under the operating
6   system; and

7   a control program operating under the operating
8   system, the control program generating a control event
9   that is detected and acted upon by the application program
10   to cause the application program to perform a selected
11   operation.

1   **22.** The computer as set forth in claim **21,** wherein
2   the control program detects a selected trigger event and
3   generates the control event in response thereto.

1   **23.** The computer as set forth in claim **21,** wherein
2   the operating system maintains an application program
3   event queue for the application program, and the control
4   program monitors the application program event queue.

1   **24.** A storage medium encoding instructions which
2   when executed on a computer in conjunction with concurrent

3   execution of an operating system and a selected program
4   perform a method comprising:

5   generating events that are received by the operating
6   system and placed into a program event queue associated
7   with the selected program, the selected program performing
8   predetermined operations in response to the generated
9   events, the predetermined operations producing a desired
10 modification in an execution of the selected program.

1   **25.** The storage medium as set forth in claim **24,**
2   wherein the method further includes:

3   monitoring the program event queue to detect an
4   occurrence of a trigger event, the generating of events
5   being performed responsive to the notification.

1   **26.** A method for controlling execution of a selected
2   application operating in an operating system environment
3   that maintains an application event queue associated with
4   the selected application, the method comprising:

5   inserting one or more control events into the
6   application event queue, the one or more control events
7   producing a predetermined response by the selected
8   application or a resource accessed by the selected
9   application.

1   **27.** The method as set forth in claim **26,** wherein the
2   operating system environment is a Windows-based operating
3   system environment, the method further including:

4   prior to the inserting, monitoring a task list
5   maintained by the Windows operating system; and

6   detecting an initiation of execution of the
7   application based on the monitoring, the inserting being
8   performed responsive to the detecting.

1   **28.** The method as set forth in claim **27,** wherein the
2 predetermined   response   by   the   selected   application
3 includes shutting down the selected application.

1   **29.** The method as set forth in claim **26,** wherein the
2 operating system environment is a Windows-based operating
3 system environment, the method further including:
4   monitoring the application event queue maintained by
5 the Windows operating system; and
6   detecting an addition of a selected event to the
7 application event queue based on the monitoring, the
8 inserting being performed responsive to the detecting.